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ABSTRACT

Early childhood education faces theoretical dilemmas as it reexamines the role of culture in the development of children and struggles to define what "developmentally appropriate" means and for whom. Teachers and other caregivers are working to integrate an anti-bias, multicultural approach into the overall curriculum and everyday interactions with children and parents. This book is intended as a resource in this process. Its seven chapters cover: (1) the context into which educators' work fits in the late 1990s and early 2000s; (2) how relationships with others, patterns of play, and problem-solving skills develop in young children; (3) self-examination of cultural attitudes; (4) building relationships with parents as preparation for talking about multicultural education; (5) multiculturalism in the classroom; (6) a unit plan on affirming cultural diversity; and (7) creating multicultural learning areas in a preschool classroom. Two appendices contain annotated bibliographies of multicultural-related books for adults and children. Contains 107 references. (EV)

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